

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment responds to the Action mailed October 31, 2007.

Applicants have amended claim 1 based on the disclosure at page 7, lines 1-4, of the application.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,590,335 (Nagayama). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

First, Nagayama is not listed in the Form PTO-892 provided with this Action or that provided with the previous Action. Furthermore, the Form PTO/SB/08a/b submitted by applicants does not list Nagayama, either. Applicants respectfully request that a revised PTO-892 listing Nagayama be issued.

Second, Nagayama issued as a patent on July 8, 2003, and there is no record of a publication of Nagayama's application. This application was filed January 16, 2004, within one year of the issuance of Nagayama. Thus, Nagayama is not a 102(b) reference against this application and is at most a 102(e) reference.

The Examiner states that "[t]he limitation of 'a high resistivity region' is a relative term and has been given little patentable weight." See paragraph 2 of the Action. Claim 1 as amended recites irradiating with a laser beam a region of the display panel that is away from the foreign substance so that *a high resistivity region is formed as a result of a melting by the laser beam of the electroluminescent layer between the anode layer and the cathode layer and around the foreign substance*. Thus, the expression "high resistivity region" has patentable weight because claim 1 requires that the high resistivity region be formed as a result of a melting of the electroluminescent layer.

Nagayama does not disclose a high resistivity region that has been formed as a result of melting of Nagayama's the electroluminescent layer, as required by claim 1.

Furthermore, claim 1 requires that the high resistivity region be formed between the anode layer and the cathode layer. On the contrary, Nagayama's method requires that the irradiated portion of metal electrode 104, whether a cathode or an anode, be removed, as

explained at column 5, lines 57-67 and shown in FIG. 2D of Nagayama. Accordingly, whatever high resistivity region is formed by Nagayama's laser irradiation, that region is not disposed between a cathode and an anode as required by claim 1, because one of the electrodes has already been removed above the high resistivity region.

The anticipation rejection of claim 1 on Nagayama should be withdrawn because Nagayama does not teach or suggest the claimed repairing method.

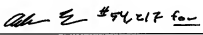
The remaining obviousness rejections rely on Nagayama and thus should be withdrawn as well because Nagayama does not provide the teachings for which it is cited.

In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952**, referencing Docket No. **606402016100**.

Respectfully submitted,

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